



20501/213RIS

Practitioner's Docket No. 20501.213RIS

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: William G. Fish et al.

Conf. No.: 6447

Application No.: 10/086,221

Group No.: 1724

Filed: 02/27/2002

Examiner: Minh Chau Thi Pham

For: VACUUM CLEANER BAG DOCKING ASSEMBLY

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JAN 17 2003
TC 1700

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

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This is in response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2002. Please reconsider the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims

Please correct claim 14 and amend claims 15, 24 and 35 as follows:

14. (Corrected) A vacuum cleaner bag docking assembly, as claimed in claim 1, for use with vacuum cleaner bags in which the collar has opposing side margins, an end margin, and corner portions between the end margin and the opposing side margins, and in which at least one corner portion is beveled at an angle to the end margin and the adjacent side margin; the bag docking assembly comprising a portion which closely conforms to the at least one corner portion.

15. (Amended) A vacuum cleaner bag comprising:
an air-permeable bag having an opening; and
a collar attached to the bag surrounding the opening, the collar having an end edge, a first side edge, a second side edge opposing the first side edge, an orientation surface, and a recess adjacent the end edge,